

IN RECOGNITION OF AMELIA
EARHART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Amelia Earhart Elementary School, in Alameda, California, on being named a 2005–2006 National Blue Ribbon School.

Amelia Earhart Elementary School has been serving students in the Bay Farm Island community of Alameda, California, since 1979. The mission of the school is to inspire academic excellence, a passion for learning and respect for self and community.

Amelia Earhart Elementary school was named a California Distinguished School in 2004 by the California Department of Education and a National “No Child Left Behind” Blue Ribbon School in 2005.

The teachers, staff, administration, parents and community members work together to create a culture at the school that promotes a dynamic school-wide vision of academic success for all students.

Amelia Earhart teachers, staff and administrators collaborate to use student data to drive informed decisions about instruction and provide a quality educational setting where all children can learn and excel.

Amelia Earhart Elementary School is a national model of excellence and an outstanding example of the ideal that all students should have an equal educational opportunity in a supportive environment and that none should be forgotten.

I join in congratulating Amelia Earhart Elementary School for its commitment to excellence, which has earned the school the well-deserved, nationally recognized, Blue Ribbon School honor.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL
OF SUSTAINED FILIPINO IMMIGRATION
TO THE UNITED STATES

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Con. Res. 218 and join my colleagues and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus in recognizing the upcoming centennial celebration of sustained Filipino immigration to the United States. For over a century now, Filipino Americans have been a vibrant part of the American story, adding to our great diversity and contributing to the success of our country.

Since the first small group of Filipino immigrants arrived in 1906 to work in the sugar plantations of Hawaii, Filipino Americans have been an important part of our country's history. Indeed, their story of struggle and success is the story of America, whether as migrant laborers working in the fields of California, or as soldiers fighting for freedom and democracy in every major conflict of the past century. One hundred years later, the Filipino American community is now over 2 million strong and the second largest Asian Pacific Islander American community in our country.

In addition, this centennial also celebrates the strong bond and friendship that the United States and the Philippines have shared for over 100 years. From the period of American governance starting in 1898 and independence in 1946, the Philippines have proven to be one of our most enduring and important allies. Today, that bond has been strengthened through sustained immigration where the exchange of ideas and cultural experiences has added to our diverse landscape.

I cannot stress enough the enormous contributions of Filipino Americans, especially all those who have served with great distinction in our Armed Services. That is why, as we celebrate this centennial, it is so important to recognize and honor the service of those Filipino veterans who served honorably during World War II. The United States made a promise to these veterans and I will continue to fight to fully restore their benefits that are 6 decades overdue.

Filipino Americans are the second most populous Asian American community in my district of San Francisco, and I am proud to represent this vibrant and active community in Congress. I look forward to commemorating the contributions of Filipino Americans and advancing the issues of the community throughout the upcoming centennial year.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR.
ROBERT SANDERS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Robert Sanders, a generous man who dedicated his life to keeping our children safe. Dr. Sanders passed away earlier this month.

Dr. Sanders wore many hats in my hometown of Murfreesboro, where he resided. He was a husband, father, farmer and pediatrician. He served as Director of the Rutherford County Health Department from 1969 to 1991 and served as the county's medical examiner from 1983 to 1999.

As a pediatrician, Dr. Sanders cared for thousands of Murfreesboro's children. As an advocate for child safety restraints in vehicles, he saved the lives of countless more. Because of Dr. Sanders' tireless efforts, Tennessee became the first State in the Nation to pass a law requiring children in vehicles to be restrained in safety seats. Every other State in the country eventually followed Tennessee's lead.

Even after the passage of that law in 1977, Dr. Sanders kept working to keep children safe while riding in vehicles. His efforts led to a state seat belt law and loaner programs to help low-income families acquire child-restraint seats.

The Tennessee Medical Association, Tennessee Public Health Association and Tennessee Pediatric Society all have honored Dr. Sanders for his great service.

Although Dr. Sanders' dedication to a noble cause will benefit children for generations to come, I know he will be deeply missed by his family, his friends and countless Middle Tennesseans like me.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF K.
LARRY STORRS ON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM CONGRESSIONAL
RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to a dedicated public servant at the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress. Dr. K. Larry Storrs is retiring from CRS after more than 30 years of service to Congress and the Nation. This length of public service is not only a credit to Dr. Storrs, but also a demonstration of the dedication that he and many others at the Congressional Research Service bring to support our work in Congress.

Hailing from the small farm town of American Fork, Utah, Dr. Storrs first became interested in politics and public policy through his participation in debate and student government in high school and college. For 2½ years he was a missionary in Brazil, beginning his life-long involvement with Latin America. After returning from Brazil, he completed his undergraduate studies at Brigham Young University majoring in political science and won a fellowship funded by the National Defense Education Act to support his doctoral studies in government and Latin American studies at Cornell University. Newly married, he returned to Brazil in the mid-1960s to research his dissertation on Brazil's foreign policy. Before joining the Library of Congress, Dr. Storrs taught for 8 years at Vassar College and the George Washington University, focusing on Latin American politics and U.S.-Latin American relations. His love of teaching ensured that he would continue teaching part-time during his public service career, including at George Washington University, American University, the Foreign Service Institute, and National Defense University. He has continued to teach me and many other Members of Congress about Latin America.

Dr. Storrs began work with CRS in 1975 as analyst in Latin American affairs and was later promoted to specialist. During his career, he has written almost 400 memoranda and reports for Members of Congress and congressional committees, organized numerous seminars, and provided thousands of briefings to congressional staff on Latin American policy issues. Until the late 1970s, Dr. Storrs worked primarily on issues in U.S. relations with Chile and Panama. On Chile, he helped support the hearings on the role of the Central Intelligence Agency in foreign policy. He also provided extensive support to the Senate during the Panama Canal Treaties debate and to both houses during consideration of the legislation creating the Panama Canal Commission that operated the Canal until the end of 1999. In the 1980s and 1990s, Dr. Storrs wrote extensively on several controversial issues related to Central America and the Caribbean: congressional conditions on military aid to El Salvador and Guatemala; congressional prohibitions on covert assistance to the contras in Nicaragua; the recommendations of the bipartisan Kissinger Commission on Central America; and enactment of the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

Beginning in the early 1990s, Dr. Storrs's research focused more on Brazil and Mexico within the context of U.S. initiatives to promote free trade in Latin America. On Mexico, he dealt with issues relating to congressional passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1993, congressional concerns with political stability and a guerrilla insurgency in 1994, and a large financial assistance package for Mexico in 1995. He also worked extensively on congressional initiatives to strengthen regional and bilateral drug control programs with Mexico. For well over a decade Larry has provided extensive support to the annual U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group meetings, and he has accompanied the U.S. delegation for the past 7 years.

Larry Storrs is a fine example of those many dedicated staff of the Congressional Research Service who help inform Congress as it deliberates important public policy issues. His gracious demeanor and considerable expertise on Latin America made him an invaluable asset to Congress for many years. On behalf of my colleagues, I extend our deep appreciation to Larry for his service, and wish him the very best in future endeavors. I doubt he will really retire from teaching. Good teachers never do. There will always be someone lucky enough to learn from Dr. Storrs. We wish you the best, Larry!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to surgery, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

December 17, 2005:

Rollcall vote 663, on Agreeing to H. Res. 623—Providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 664, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Senate Amendment to H.R. 2520—the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act, I would have voted aye.

December 19, 2005:

Rollcall vote 665, on Agreeing to the Conference Report H.R. 1815—the National Defense Authorization Act of FY 2006, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 666, on Agreeing to H. Res. 639—Waiving points of order against the conference report on H.R. 2863, FY 2006 Department of Defense Appropriations, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 667, on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended to H. Con. Res. 284—Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to the 2005 presidential and parliamentary elections in Egypt, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 668, on the Motion to Recommend with instructions H.R. 2863—Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, I would have voted nay.

Rollcall vote 669, on Agreeing to the Conference Report H.R. 2863—Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 670, on Agreeing to the Conference Report S. 1932—the Budget Reconciliation Act of 2006, I would have voted aye.

Rollcall vote 671, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree—Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the education curriculum of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, I would have voted aye.

U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN INAUGURATES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 31, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to my Colleagues' attention to a very important event, the first annual International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust, which took place last Friday, January 27, 2006, at the U.N. in New York.

Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of my two good friends, Secretary General Kofi Annan and General Assembly President Jan Eliasson, the U.N. established this annual remembrance, and in doing so, has taken a critical step to begin to undo a dark legacy of bias and hatred directed against Jews and the Democratic State of Israel that has long plagued the U.N. The idea for an annual U.N. Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust, which was instituted by Resolution 60/7 on November 1, 2005, grew out of an event that took place one year ago in New York, an historic Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly to mark the 60th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Nazi Death Camps on January 25, 2005. Last year's U.N. Special Session was convened with the support of the vast majority of U.N. member State's at the urging of Secretary General Annan.

The relevance of and the need for this International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust could not be more clear. Mr. Speaker, in the months following the establishment of the International Day of Commemoration for the Victims of the Holocaust by Resolution 60/7, the current President of Iran, Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, has publicly stated that he believes that Holocaust is a "myth" and that Israel "should be wiped off the map."

Mr. Speaker, I draw my colleagues' attention to the courageous remarks U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan delivered on the occasion of the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust last Friday, January 27th. The Secretary General stated, "Remembering is a necessary rebuke to those who say the Holocaust never happened or has been exaggerated. Holocaust denial is the work of bigots. We must reject their false claims whenever, wherever and by whomever they are made."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire text of the Secretary General's important address be placed in the RECORD. I also ask that the entire text of remarks delivered at that same event by General Assembly President Jan Eliasson of Sweden and Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambas-

sador Dan Gillerman be included in the RECORD.

MESSAGE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST BY SECRETARY-GENERAL KOFI ANNAN

Today, for the first time, the United Nations marks what will, from now on be an annual observance: the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

There can be no reversing the unique tragedy of the Holocaust. It must be remembered, with shame and horror, for as long as human memory continues.

Only by remembering can we pay fitting tribute to the victims. Millions of innocent Jews and members of other minorities were murdered in the most barbarous ways imaginable. We must never forget those men, women and children, or their agony.

Remembering is a necessary rebuke to those who say the Holocaust never happened or has been exaggerated. Holocaust denial is the work of bigots. We must reject their false claims whenever, wherever and by whomever they are made.

Remembering is also a safeguard for the future. The abyss reached in the Nazi death camps started with hatred, prejudice and anti-Semitism. Recalling these origins can remind us to be ever on the lookout for warning signs.

As the Holocaust recedes in time, and as the number of survivors dwindles, it falls to us—the current generation—to carry the torch of remembrance and uphold the cause of human dignity.

The United Nations was founded as a reaction to the horrors of the Second World War. Even so, the international community has too often failed to stand up to mass atrocities.

In recent years we have taken important steps to improve on that record, such as establishing the International Criminal Court and agreeing on the collective responsibility to protect.

On this International Day of Commemoration, the theme of our observance is "remembrance and beyond". In that spirit, let us pledge ourselves to even greater efforts to prevent genocide and crimes against humanity.

MESSAGE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, H.E. MR. JAN ELIASSON, ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Today we observe for the first time the International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. This event will take place every year on 27 January. This follows the adoption without a vote of General Assembly resolution 60/7 on "Holocaust remembrance", on 1 November, 2005.

This year's commemoration is of special significance. It takes place only one year after the General Assembly's Special Session on 24 January 2005, which marked the sixtieth anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps.

The liberation of the Nazi death camps revealed to the world one of the most horrendous crimes against humanity. Auschwitz-Birkenau, Dachau, Sobibor, and Treblinka are among the sites where the lives of millions of people were extinguished on political, religious or ethnic grounds.

Remembering this low point in human history is a solemn duty for all of us. We must continue to exorcise the evil of the past. In resolution 60/7, the General Assembly unequivocally "rejects any denial of the Holocaust as an historic event, either in full or in part."